

CHICKAMAUGA REACHED BY FIVE DISTINCT ROUTES

New Street Car Line and Concrete Road Complete Transportation System.

One of the factors which has made the selection of Chickamauga park as a cantonment around a particularly happy one has been its easy accessibility from Chattanooga, and since the establishment of the various camps out there transportation facilities from the city have been greatly increased at an enormous expense.

At the very beginning it is doubtful if a camp in the south was so excellently served in the matter of transportation. The automobile road out through Rossville and beyond, known as the Lafayette road, was already part of the magnificent system of government boulevards which has been one of Chattanooga's chief distinctions and was maintained always in a most excellent condition. Over it daily passed scores of tourists to continue their pleasant ride along the smooth highways threading the park proper. The park at the beginning was also served by another government highway, leaving the Rossville boulevard at Rossville and coming into the park from the west, this being known as the Hooker road.

At that time there was only one street car line running to the park, but it was adequate to the needs of the situation until the number of troops began to assume something like their present proportions.

In the matter of railroad connection, Lytle, which is situated about midway of the park, is on the main line of the Central of Georgia, and a branch line runs to Fort Oglethorpe, the old army post, which is just adjacent to Camp Greenleaf.

However, with the steadily-increasing number of troops encamped in the various units at Chickamauga came a stream of traffic which practically swamped all existing facilities for transportation, with the possible exception of the railway line to Lytle. Yards and switches here had been enlarged with the growth of the camps, and as the greater part of the traffic over the railroad has always been freight the congestion was not so keenly felt as upon the street railway, which carried the men themselves and visitors to and from the camp.

Some years ago the Chattanooga Railway and Light company had begun the construction of another line to Chickamauga in addition to the one already existing, the new line being planned to follow very closely the Lafayette road through McFarland's gap. After consultation with the military authorities and recognition of the pressing necessity for increased street car facilities, the railway and light company recommenced work upon this line shortly after the troops began to arrive and the line was finished in the early part of November.

The terminal of the old line is at Dodge, Ga., and the new line ends at the intersection of the Lafayette road and the Rossville road, about half a mile distant, but much nearer the center of things in the park. This line is approximately half a mile shorter than the old road, and since its completion has absorbed most of the traffic. New construction on this line, from its intersection with the Rossville short line, totaled 4.17 miles, and, being done at the time it was, proved a most expensive undertaking.

As the number of troops increased and the traffic of passenger automobiles and trucks over the Lafayette road became heavier, the old macadam surface, ideal for pre-war uses, gave down, and the war department determined to end all troubles by building the very finest road possible. Consequently, in the early winter the very difficult task of building a concrete road, despite the danger of freezing, was undertaken and pushed to a very successful conclusion.

The work was under the direct supervision of the constructing quartermaster and was carried through at the highest speed possible in the coldest winter on record, being finished with the opening of spring weather. The concrete road from its junction with the Rossville boulevard is a little over four and one-half miles in length, and twenty-four feet wide.

To travel over that road now is a most pleasurable experience, and it is a high tribute to the skill of the builders that it is as smooth as a table, when it is considered that it was built at a time when weather conditions were such as to frighten even the most optimistic. But, in spite of everything, it remains a magnificent piece of road-building, being possibly the best stretch in the Chattanooga district, and certainly among the very best.

HAS BECOME "SPECIALTY" CITY

A well known economic writer in a recent article upon those cities which have become nation famous because of the excellence shown in producing one class of articles, includes Chattanooga.

He points out that it is natural to expect four made in Minneapolis or St. Paul to be good, to associate Detroit with excellent automobiles, Brooklyn with shoes, Akron with automobile tires, and Chattanooga with iron products, and shows that such specialization not only advertises the city, but guarantees the quality of the product.

WELL-LOVED REGIMENT AT CHICKAMAUGA

Chattanooga's Favorite, Eleventh Cavalry, in Barracks Across Road From Park.

One of the most picturesque outfits in Chickamauga park is the Eleventh cavalry regiment, eight troops of which are stationed there under the command of Col. Lockett, who is also in command of the post. This regiment of cavalry is one of the oldest outfits in the United States service and has a very heroic record to it on to greater deeds in the future. The Eleventh cavalry is one of the regiments that went into Mexico with Gen. Pershing.

Fort Oglethorpe has long been the post of the Eleventh cavalry, but when that organization went to the border other outfits moved into the post for training, and since that time the barracks on the circle have been used as hospital wards, and the stables formerly used for the cavalry horses have been re-used and turned into barracks for the service companies and other outfits.

When the cavalrymen returned and found themselves out of their barracks, they were stationed in barracks just across the road from the post proper, being separated from the post enclosure only by the new concrete road to Chattanooga and the car line. The drill field for the cavalry is in the southeastern part of the park, and it is indeed interesting to watch the men go through the work with the horses. The hurdles are sometimes hard for the new men coming in, and for weeks at a time it is almost impossible to get a new horse to take one of the hurdles. Others coming in take to the life like it was old to them and give no trouble.

While the band plays march time music the troops go through their various drills on the field. The manner in which some of the horses have been taught is wonderful. Some know the drill regulations and the bugle calls as well as the men who ride them and can execute the movements without riders on their backs.

The men are taught to vault onto the horses without touching them with their hands; are taught to ride them at break-neck speed and pick up things from the ground; to ride them standing in the saddle and all sorts of tricks like that, which, to the casual observer, seem unnecessary for warfare. They are necessary, however, because the cavalrymen are expected to be good horsemen, and when the cavalry is needed it is good horsemen that are wanted. When the cavalry is engaged a man don't have time to hold on when his mount goes over a hurdle or a fence or when he is using his rifle while in pursuit of the enemy. All of the training that the cavalrymen get is for the purpose of making them good horsemen and good soldiers, and the system in vogue in the United States accomplishes both.

Needless to say, the Eleventh cavalry is very anxious to get into action. The outfit that came back from the border was divided into three parts, the first part being left as the foundation for a new regiment of cavalry still to be known as the Eleventh, and the other two parts were made the foundation for two regiments of artillery—the Eighty-first and Eighty-second.

Some troops of the Eleventh cavalry are now on the border and some are scattered all over the west. Yellowstone park has its detachment of Eleventh cavalrymen on guard there, and several other places are stations for detachments from the regiment.

OGLETHORPE'S HEALTH RECORD IS UNSURPASSED BY ANY OTHER CAMP

Public Health Service is Startled by the Excellence of the Sanitary Conditions at the Park.

There is no malaria at Fort Oglethorpe or in Chickamauga park, and no mosquitoes. Flies are also very scarce, so scarce, in fact, that an officer recently, in speaking of their scarcity, said: "Flies are so few here in camp that when you meet one you feel like taking off your hat."

That is the situation that exists in the army camps at the post. That is one of the chief reasons for Fort Oglethorpe and the camps near it having such a wonderful health record—no malaria fever, no typhoid fever, no had epidemics of any disease, even including measles and mumps.

Lieut. Col. White, of the public health service, was in Chickamauga recently on a tour of inspection, and he was startled at the high-class conditions he found about the camps. Col. White was from the surgeon-general's office in Washington and his inspection tour was official. His report will be a good one. He said that he had found practically no mosquitoes and that there was absolutely no malaria-carrying mosquitoes in the park.

The public health service not only aids in taking care of the camps in the elimination of disease-carrying mosquitoes and flies, but is doing a wonderful amount of good work—some of it educational—among the people living in the five-mile zone about the camps. The military authorities have absolute control over all activities within a radius of five miles of the camps, and any cleaning that is necessary in the zone can be ordered immediately, and it must be done.

The sanitary conditions in Camps Greenleaf and Forrest are the best of any camp in the United States. The drains are better cared for and have a more natural course than in most camps. This is largely due to the fact that the park was a national reservation before the camps were established there and was well taken care of.

All of the ditches have been cleaned out and where rocks barred the way of the water they have been blasted and a way cleared for the running water. No water is allowed to stagnate within the camp or the five-mile zone, and every precaution is being taken to eliminate all breeding places of both mosquitoes and flies.

All droppings about the stables and picket lines in the park are hauled away daily and not allowed to accumulate for fear of breeding flies. Cows that formerly had the run of the park have been restrained, and that source of droppings for the breeding of flies has thus been eliminated.

A special order was issued relative to the cow menace making it a criminal offense against the government for a person to let his cows rove the park.

It was the practice of some of the farmers near the park to turn their cows into the enclosure and allow them to graze to their hearts' content. These cows made droppings that formed breeding places for flies, and, in addition, made the park look unsightly.

The order was issued by Col. Lockett, in command at the post, and stated that cows allowed to run within the fence would be taken up and that before the owner could get his property he would be forced to pay the government for their upkeep, a damage assessment and for the trouble of herding them into the corral. Since then the appearance of cows in the park has been rather few and the cleanliness of the park has been noticeable ever since.

It is such watchfulness as this that has kept the health conditions in the

park so high, with the sick rate so very low in the percentage column.

NURSES, AS WELL AS SOLDIERS, ARE TRAINED

Base Hospital No. 14 Has Corps of Hundred and Fifty Young Women on Duty.

There are at present something between 125 and 150 nurses stationed at General Hospital 14 at Fort Oglethorpe and within the next few months the number will be increased to over 500. One building that has been used as a ward in the hospital, one officers' quarters and the new nurses' home near the reclamation wards are all occupied by nurses now.

The work that these young women are doing under the able supervision of Miss Allen, the head nurse, is wonderful. The way in which the soldiers, who are sick and are taken to the hospital, come back blessing their nurses testified to the manner in which the nurses take care of their patients. And the work of the nurses is as patriotic as fighting in the ranks. They undergo almost as much danger, are never armed, never protected and especially from air attacks, and when one comes they must stand by their patients to the last. The news com-

ing from France of the bravery of the American nurses emphasizes what the American woman is made of.

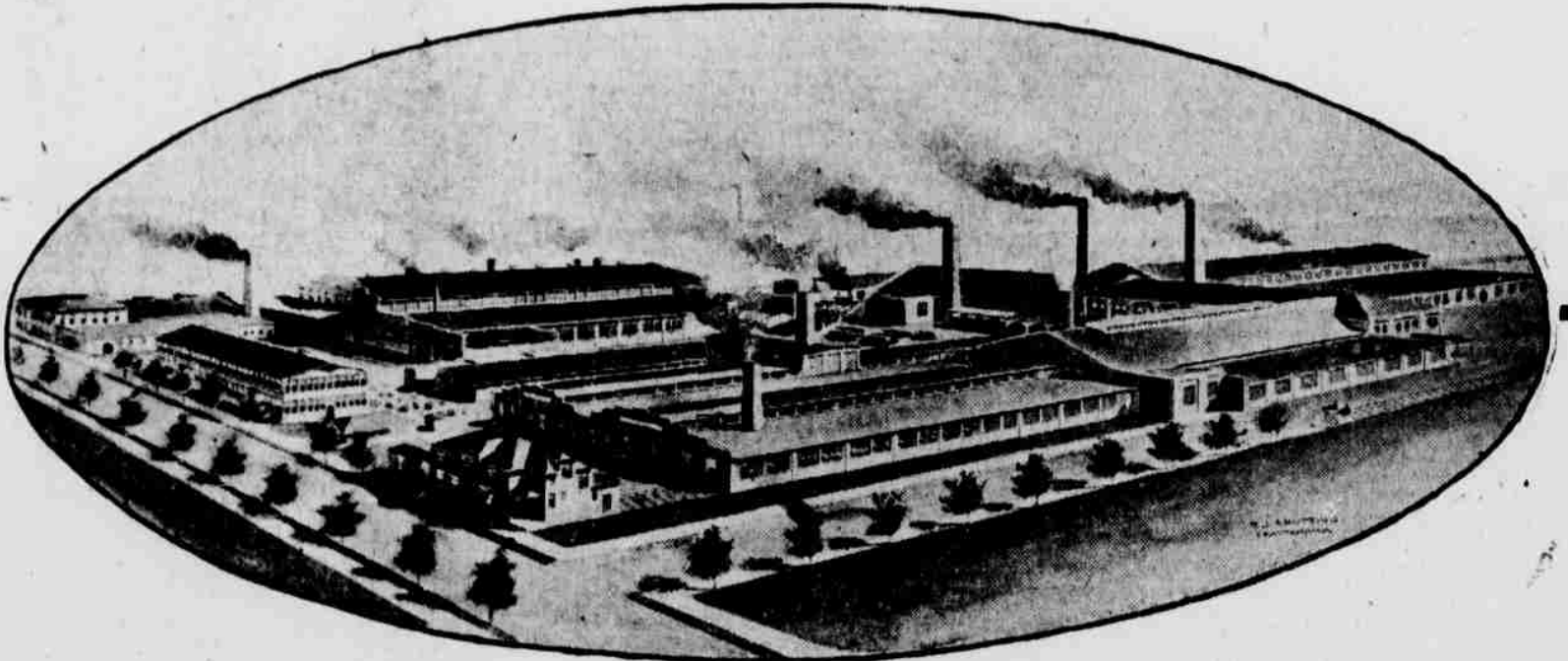
Nearly all of the nurses at the General hospital will go over in time. There are a few now on duty who probably will not see France. Every day or two a group are called away and every few days another group come in to take their place.

After the reclamation wards are filled, with wounded from the battle front there will be a certain number of nurses stationed here permanently, who have had experience with wounded men on the other side.

NINETEEN COUNTIES IN CHATTANOOGA LABOR ZONE

Chattanooga is the headquarters of a very important division of the state in regard to the lines established by the United States employment service. At Chattanooga there is a community labor board having direct charge of the supply and distribution of common labor not only for the important war work plants in Hamilton county, but in eighteen other counties as well.

Included in the Chattanooga zone is the Copperhill and Ducktown copper district, which is the largest copper producing center east of the Rocky mountains, and which is, of course, of great importance in the national scheme of munitions and war material production.

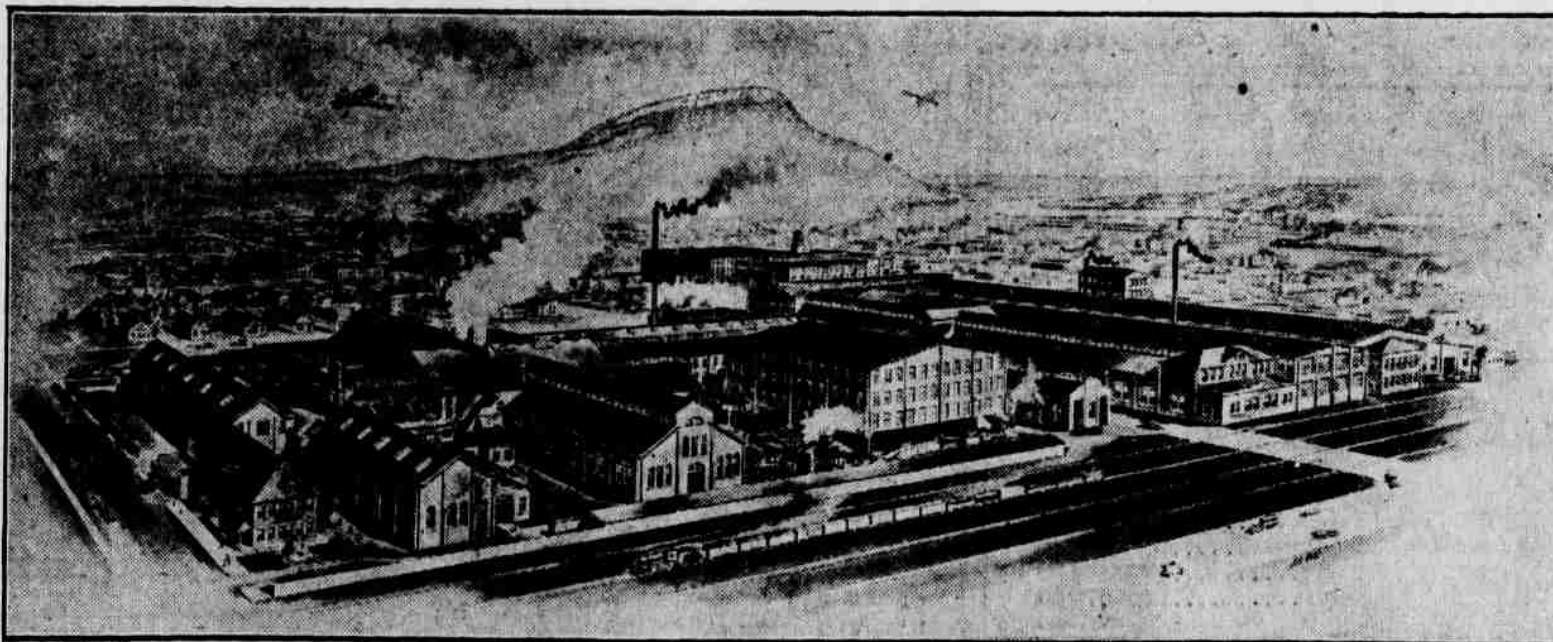


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